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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,803	05/28/2004	Guofang Cao	04.62593-pk5	3802

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LAW OFFICES OF J.F. LEE
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EXAMINER

DURCIK, RYAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3709

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/06/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/709,803

Applicant(s)

CAO, GUOFANG

Examiner

Ryan Durcik

Art Unit

3709

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4 and 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In paragraph 2, sentence 1, change "employs cable" to --employs a cable-- and "users to" to --users a way to--. In paragraph 21, sentence 1, change "piece10" to --piece 10--. In paragraph 22, sentence 2, change "fig. 2c" to --Fig. 2c-- and "sandwiched" to --sandwiched--. In paragraph 24, sentence 1, change "circumferences top" to --circumferences of top--. In paragraph 24, sentence 2, change "figs. 3a" to --Figs. 3a-- and change "piece 40 is fitted" to --piece 40 fitted--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: In part (f), change "eye hood" to --eye hook-- and change "between grab bar" to --between a grab bar--. In claim 5, change "sandwiched" to --sandwiched--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, because part (c) claims "a washer piece for insertion into said bolt body", however it is the bolt that is inserted into the washer. This needs to be accurately stated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

6. Claims 1, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoffman (US 6,572,483). The patent to Hoffman discloses an eye hook 30 with a bolt body and a threaded end (see Figure 4). The bolt body is slidably inserted into the top cap piece 46 as well as the washer 52. A nut 54 is used to secure the washer to the threaded end of the bolt body. The top cap piece 46 is connected to the bottom piece 36 which contains a bar 44 (see Figure 3). With respect to “means for connecting said bottom piece to said top cap piece”, the bolt body acts as the means. Hoffman also discloses ball bearings 50 sandwiched between two round disks (see Figure 4).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

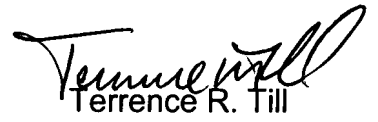
8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Guinn, Smith, Miller, Nissen, and Scherba all disclose various mechanisms that prevent the transmission of torque from one part to another. Wiley discloses a method for receiving a bar and attaching it to a swivel joint.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan Durcik whose telephone number is (571) 270-3510. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrence Till can be reached on (571) 272-1280. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 3709

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terrence R. Till". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Terrence R. Till
Supervisory Patent Examiner

RD
RD